

Lt. Governor John Garamendi and UC Regents Request UC Budget Without Damaging Student Tuition Hikes

□ Garamendi now pushes Legislature and Governor to get to work and approve UC budget without tuition hikes or enrollment will be limited

SAN FRANCISCO – Lieutenant Governor John Garamendi, a University of California regent, gave the UC Regents high praise for sending the California Legislature and Governor a budget for the state's 10 UC campuses that doesn't include tuition increases but fully funds essential educational and research programs. Garamendi, who strongly urged the UC regents to remove the tuition hikes initially factored into the budget, said the UC Regents did the right thing to maintain the highest quality standards to advance critical research and give qualified California students access to the campuses.

"I am particularly pleased that the regents are not proposing a tuition increase," Lieutenant Governor John Garamendi said. "The student fees have doubled in the last six years including a 10 percent fee increase in the current academic year. These increases have priced out far too many qualified California students from the UC system. Also, with the credit crunch now in play, it is extremely tough to get student loans and the last thing Californians need is a tuition increase."

Garamendi said the California Legislature and Governor need to fully understand what is at stake for California students when taking action on the UC budget including a \$815 million revenue increase to keep classes from being cut so students can graduate in four years, hire top rated professors and maintain world class research facilities.

"The proposed UC budget recognizes if the legislature and the Governor do not provide the funding as requested, enrollment will be limited and qualified students will not be admitted," Garamendi said.